

- [54] **TENNIS BALL FEEDER AND RANDOM SERVER**

- [76] Inventor: **Kenneth M. Hodges, 3750  
Grandview Blvd., Los Angeles,  
Calif. 90066**

- [21] Appl. No.: 799,283

- [22] Filed: May 23, 1977

### Related U.S. Application Data

- [63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 664,376, Mar. 5, 1976,  
Pat. No. 4,025,071.

- [51] Int. Cl.<sup>2</sup> ..... F41B 3/04

- [52] U.S. Cl. .... 124/78; 273/29 A;  
124/49

- [58] **Field of Search** ..... 273/29 A, 30, 26 R,  
273/26 D, 176 E, 176 G, 176 H, 129; 124/45,  
46, 47, 51 R, 78, 82, 10, 80, 4, 9, 1, 49, 48, 50, 41  
R, 6

- [56]
- References Cited**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

- 2,705,945 4/1955 Cavalier ..... 124/6

- |           |         |                      |          |
|-----------|---------|----------------------|----------|
| 3,604,409 | 9/1971  | Doeg .....           | 273/26 D |
| 3,766,901 | 10/1973 | Cleary et al. ....   | 273/29 A |
| 3,785,358 | 1/1974  | D'Angelo et al. .... | 124/48 X |
| 3,807,379 | 4/1974  | Vodinh .....         | 273/26 D |
| 4,002,336 | 1/1977  | Beaver .....         | 273/30   |
| 4,094,294 | 6/1978  | Speer .....          | 124/51 R |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

- |         |        |                            |          |
|---------|--------|----------------------------|----------|
| 2438339 | 2/1976 | Fed. Rep. of Germany ..... | 273/29 A |
| 502636  | 5/1976 | U.S.S.R. ....              | 124/6    |

*Primary Examiner*—Richard C. Pinkham

*Assistant Examiner—T. Brown*

*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—William H. Maxwell

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A tennis ball server supplied by a motorized ball feeder comprised of a trough and rotating plate that feeds balls at one rate, and wherein the server is motorized to oscillate so as to vary elevation of trajectory at another rate and is also motorized to oscillate so as to vary the traverse at still another rate; the three dissimilar motorized rates providing unpredictably placed serves, with speed control over said serves.

**14 Claims, 10 Drawing Figures**

